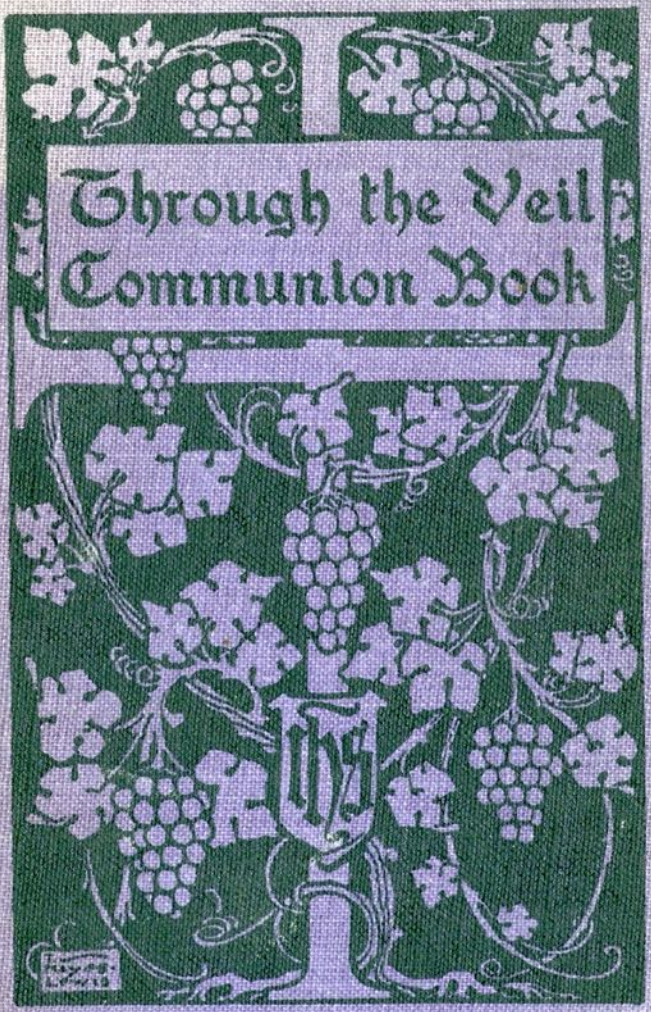
Through the Veil Communion Book



THE FAITH PRESS, LTD., 7 TUFTON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

THROUGH THE VEIL
COMMUNION BOOK.

PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY THE FAITH PRESS, LTD.
7 TUFTON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1

Blessed are they that wash their robes, that they may have the right to come to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.—*Rev.* 22^{14}.

And the Spirit and the Bride say, Come. And he that heareth, let him say, Come. And he that is athirst, let him come; he that will, let him take of the water of life freely.
—*Rev.* 22^{17}.

If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin.—*i Joh.* 1^{7}.

Hereby know we love, because he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.—*i Joh.* 3^{16}.

The House of Bread

On entering the Church

Kneel down and say

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

OUR Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Followed by this

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

O holy and undivided Trinity,
With heart and mouth we praise, bless and confess,
Thee, the Father Eternal,
Thee, the Son Only-begotten,
Thee, the Holy Ghost the Comforter,
To thee be glory for ever. ✠ Amen.

Look at the picture opposite and call to mind why you are in Church. You have come to worship God the Father through Jesus Christ his only Son who is present with us by the operation of the Holy Ghost in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

In the picture you see a Priest and his attendant ministers worshipping before the Sacrament, as you will see your priest to-day worshipping when the Bread is broken and the Wine is blessed.

"Through the Veil," the picture shows a vision of the Babe of Bethlehem, the Word made Flesh, God with us as he promised by his holy prophets. Bethlehem means House of Bread, and in the House of Bread on the altar to-day we worship him until he come and we see him as he is.

Say therefore a PRAYER OF INTENTION *like that on the next page.*

A Prayer of Intention.

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind,
I come to join with the Church of thy dear Son
In offering to thee the Holy Sacrifice,
In continual remembrance of his death
For the world's salvation and my own.
I thank thee for my creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life.
Thine they are and I give thee but thine own.
I am not worthy to come before thee,
But, through thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world,
Thou hast called us to this service;
Thou hast given us the means of grace and the hope of glory.
Thou hast taught us by thine Apostle to pray for one another.
Let thy Holy Spirit bless my offering,
That it may be acceptable in thy sight.
Bless . . . . .*(mention those persons and undertakings for which you make an intention.)*
Bless the priest at the altar to-day,
And all who minister in thy holy Church:
Bless those who worship wherever they may be,
And bring back those who fall away.
Convert all sinners,
Heal the sick:
Have mercy on the dead.
And bless me also, O my Father,
For the sake of Jesus Christ thine only Son our Lord. Amen.

As time allows you may add any of the following prayers.

For Courage.

V. God is a righteous judge, strong and patient:

R. And God is provoked every day.

O GOD, I pray thee grant me courage and strength in thee, make me less afraid of trouble and more ready to put my trust in thee and in thy fatherly goodness. Thou hast sent forth strength for us. Stablish the thing that thou hast wrought in us for the sake of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of Childhood.

V. Even a child is known by his doings:

R. Whether his work be pure and whether it be right.

O GOD, who hast called us to be thy children, give us simple and true hearts to learn thy doctrine, that, living the life which Jesus lived on earth, we may be joined to him in heaven: through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of Perseverance.

V. The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous:

R. But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

O GOD, who hast led us from our youth up until now, help us to declare thy wondrous works; that, serving with our brethren here on earth, we may be called to the brotherhood of thy Saints in heaven; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of Devotion.

V. One generation shall praise thy works unto another:

R. And declare thy power.

O GOD, who hast knit together heaven and earth by the eternal Sacrifice of thy blessed Son, grant us by faith to pierce through this veil of flesh, that, seeing thee as thou art, we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When the Priest enters with his attendants
STAND FOR THE INTROIT OR HYMN,
which is usually sung while these say an office of

Preparation for Holy Communion.

If you have time you may join them by reading to yourself as follows:—

IN the Name ✠ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

V. I will go unto the altar of God:

R. Even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

Psalm 43.

GIVE sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people: O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.

2 For thou art the God of my strength, why hast thou put me from thee: and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me?

3 O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me: and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.

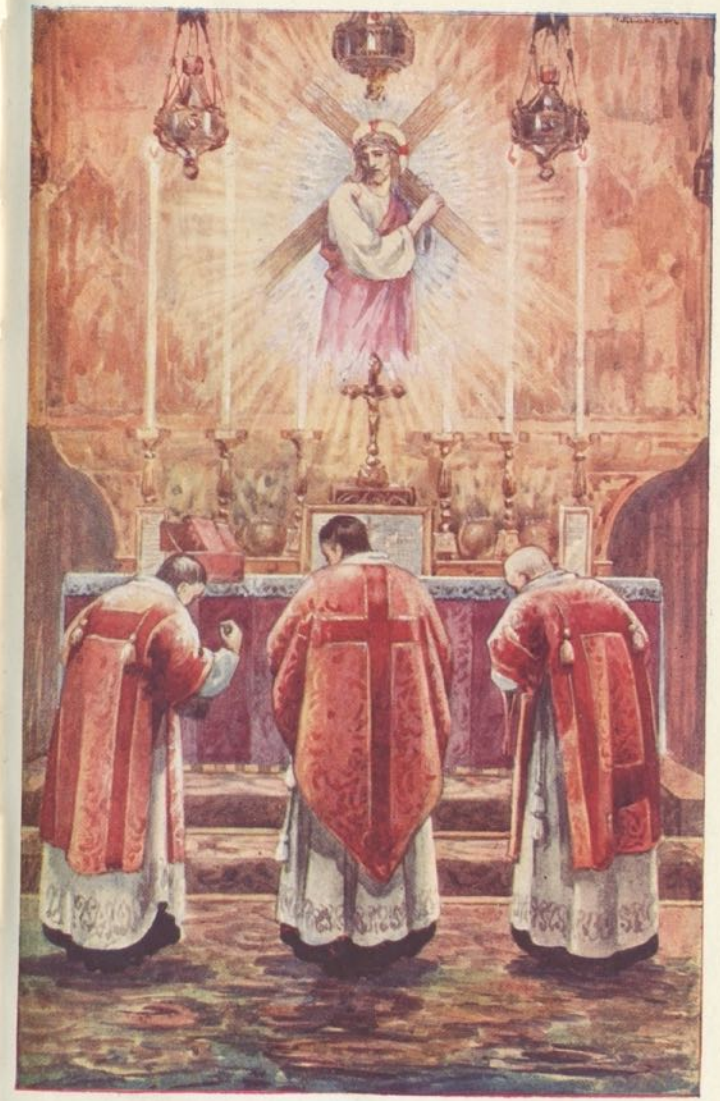
4 And that I may go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and gladness: and upon the harp will I give thanks unto thee, O God, my God.

5 Why art thou so heavy, O my soul: and why art thou so disquieted within me?

6 O put thy trust in God: for I will yet give him thanks, which is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.



The Preparation

I WILL go unto the altar of God: even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

V. My help standeth ✠ in the Name of the Lord:

R. Who hath made heaven and earth.

I CONFESS to God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, before the whole company of heaven, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, of my fault, my own fault, my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God to have mercy upon me.

Almighty God, have mercy upon me, forgive me my sins and bring me to everlasting life.

V. Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us?
R. That thy people may rejoice in thee.
V. Show us thy mercy, O Lord:
R. And grant us thy salvation.
V. O Lord, hear our prayer:
R. And let our cry come unto thee.
V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

The first part of the Communion Service consists of READINGS AND PRAYERS. *In olden days these were much longer than they are now. There were three Readings, one from the Old Testament, one from the writings of an Apostle, and one from the Gospels. Between the Readings there were hymns, litanies and prayers.*

To-day the Old Testament reading is always the Ten Commandments, though sometimes a passage from the old Testament is read instead of the Apostle (Epistle). So there seem to be only two readings, the Epistle and the Holy Gospel. And the only Hymn sung is the one between these two readings.

The Priest begins the Public Service by saying:—

OUR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

followed by the

COLLECT FOR PURITY.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then are generally read:—

The Ten Commandments.

Minister.

GOD spake these words, and said; I am the Lord thy God: Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children unto the

third and fourth generation of them that hate me, and shew mercy unto thousands in them that love me, and keep my commandments.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless, that taketh his Name in vain.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt do no manner of work, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt do no murder.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not steal.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Minister. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

Sometimes, however, the Commandments are not read, but the Kyries (LORD HAVE MERCY) *are sung alone, either in English—*

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

or in the original Greek—

Kyrie, eleïson. Kyrie, eleïson. Kyrie, eleïson.
Christe, eleïson. Christe, eleïson. Christe, eleïson.
Kyrie, eleïson. Kyrie, eleïson. Kyrie, eleïson.

Reading the Holy Gospel

After the Ten Commandments and the Kyries (LORD HAVE MERCY) the Priest says:

The Collect for the King.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we are taught by thy holy Word, that the hearts of Kings are in thy rule and governance, and that thou dost dispose and turn them as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom: We humbly beseech thee so to dispose and govern the heart of GEORGE thy Servant, our King and Governor, that, in all his thoughts, words, and works, he may ever seek thy honour and glory, and study to preserve thy people committed to his charge, in wealth, peace, and godliness: Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

followed by

The Collect for the Day.

This changes every Sunday and Festival. Sometimes several Collects are appointed to be said.

After the last of the Collects SIT *for*

The Epistle.

This is a passage from the writings of one of the Apostles, and, like the Collect for the Day, changes for every Sunday and Festival.

At a Sung Service *the reading of the Epistle is divided by a Hymn called the* SEQUENCE *or* GRADUAL *from*

The Holy Gospel.

before which we all stand, and sing or say

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, in some Churches they add

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Still standing, we then join all together in proclaiming the Faith of Jesus Christ in the words of the Creed drawn up at the Council of Nikæa in A.D. 325, and called

The Nicene Creed.

I believe in one God,
The Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only-begotten Son of God,
Begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God,
Begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father,
By whom all things were made:
Who for us men, and for our salvation
Came down from heaven,

KNEEL.

And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost
Of the Virgin Mary,
And was made man,

STAND.

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
And the third day he rose again
according to the Scriptures,
And ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory
to judge both the quick and the dead:
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,
The Lord, and Giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified,
Who spake by the prophets.
And I believe one Catholick and Apostolick
Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission
of sins.
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come.
✠ Amen.

You will not have time to say the following now, but later in the Service, when there is a pause, you may turn back and read:—

THE CREED IN VERSE.

Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three and God is One;
And I next acknowledge duly
Manhood taken by the Son.

And I trust and hope most fully
In that Manhood crucified;
And each thought and deed unruly
Do to death, as he has died.

Simply to his grace and wholly
Light and life and strength belong.
And I love supremely, solely,
Him the Holy, him the Strong.

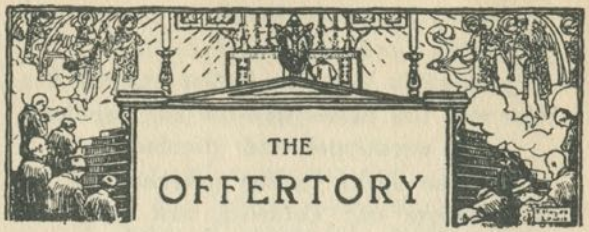
And I hold in veneration,
For the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation,
And her teachings as his own.

Adoration ay be given,
With and through the angelic host,
To the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Notice is then given of the Feasts and Fasts during the week and of the services arranged. The Banns of Marriage are also read, and any other announcements made. After these comes

The Sermon

in which the Word of God is expounded and the Teaching of Holy Church is explained for our instruction and improvement.



THE OFFERTORY

We now come to the EUCHARIST, *or Thanksgiving*

Everything belongs to thee, O God,
We give thee but thine own.
As an outward visible sign we offer
Bread and Wine.
We offer the part for the whole upon thine Altar,
For all is thine.
Take what thou wilt and make us
wholly thine.

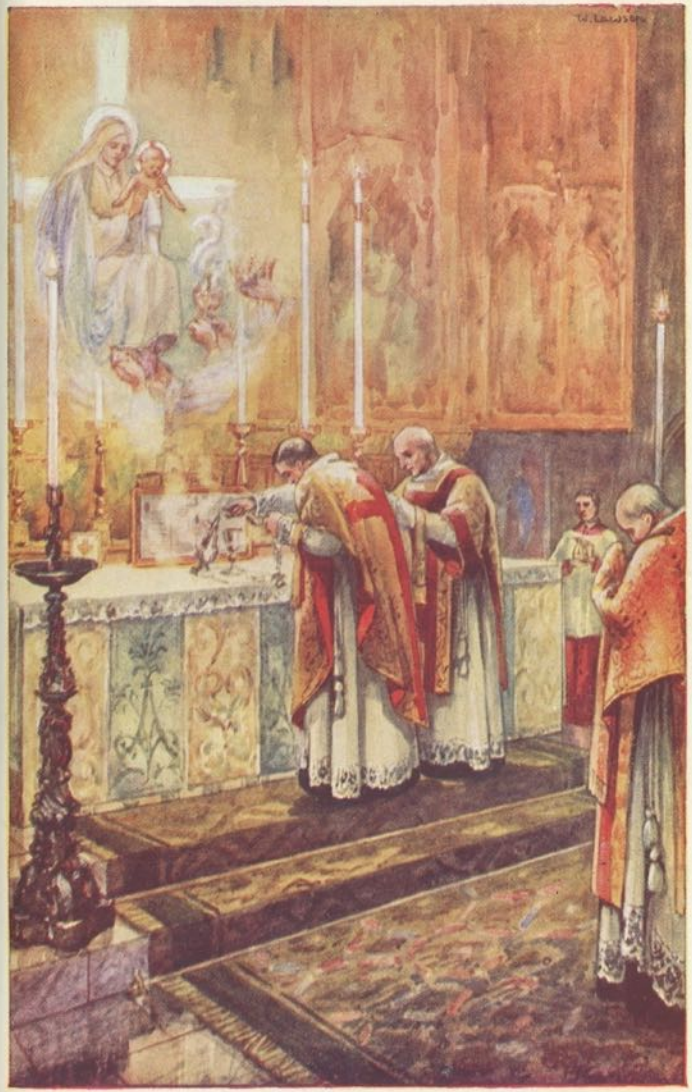
This Offertory of Bread and Wine is a very ancient outward visible sign that we acknowledge all things to belong to God. Ever since men first began to call upon the Name of the Lord, they have made this offering. Thus we read,

Melchizedek, King of Salem, brought forth bread and wine; and he was the priest of the most high God.—*Gen.* 14[18].

So also the Wise Men, when they followed the Star to Bethlehem, made an offering to represent the gifts of God in creation. They came to worship, and they showed their worship by the outward visible sign. All was God's. So they laid before him THE PART FOR THE WHOLE.

When they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold and frankincense and myrrh.—*S. Matt.* 2[11].

Like those Wise Men we are come to worship the Son of God. We open our treasures and make an offering of money, THE PART FOR THE WHOLE.



The Offertory

For God giveth all. And as an outward visible sign of the Thanksgiving (Eucharist) of Creation, the Priest lays Bread and Wine upon the Altar. This Bread and Wine God accepts and by his Holy Spirit makes it to be the Offering single and complete, the first-fruits of creation, the Body and Blood of his Son.

Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.—*Heb.*6[20].

Through him our gifts come back to us, in Holy Sacrament, the Holy Communion of his Body and his Blood.

While the Priest prepares the Offertory of Bread and Wine, the Collection of money is taken.

(Everyone should give something, however small a coin, because it is not good to come before the Lord empty. But it is not necessary to give. God loves the poor as he loves the rich, and he knows whether we can afford much or little or nothing. But remember God knows, and you cannot expect always to get everything from God if you are selfish yourself. If you are really thankful, you will like to be generous.)

During the Collection a HYMN *is often sung. When this is finished, or when you have placed your coin in the collection,*

KNEEL

while the Priest says

The Prayer for the Church.

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with

the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant, that all they that do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity, and godly love. We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and specially thy Servant GEORGE our King; that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto his whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and Curates, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments: And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom: Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

In order that we may draw near in spirit to the Holy Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ, of which the Bread and Wine we are offering are to be the outward and visible sign, we join now in making a General Confession of sins.

Remain kneeling while the Priest says:—

YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Then join with all present in saying aloud, while you try from your heart to mean every word,

The General Confession.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest then gives us

The Absolution.

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest adds the following texts from Holy Scripture, which are called

The Comfortable Words.

HEAR what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me
All that travail and are heavy laden
And I will refresh you.
So God loved the world,
That he gave his only begotten Son,
To the end that all that believe in him
Should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying,
And worthy of all men to be received,
That Christ Jesus came into the world
To save sinners.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin,
We have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous;
And he is the propitiation for our sins.

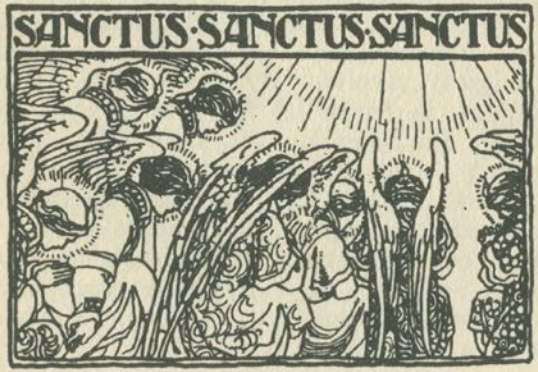
Sursum Corda

The Offertory is now finished with the Thanksgiving.

Sursum Corda.

Priest. The Lord be with you.
Answer. And with thy spirit.
Priest. Lift up your hearts.
Answer. We lift them up unto the Lord.
P. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
Answer. It is meet and right so to do.
Priest. It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying,

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY,
Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full
of thy glory:
Glory be to thee,
O Lord most High.



So far our Thanksgiving has been just the natural worship of the Creator, the Giver of all good gifts. Like Melchizedek or the Wise Men we bring an offering and lay it before God.

Now we draw near as the Church of our Lord Jesus. We sing the Angels' Hymn,

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY,

And to it we add

THE HYMN OF MESSIAH.

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord,
Hosannah in the Highest.

For when in the Name of Jesus Christ we give thanks to God for the redemption of the world, God makes the simple Bread and Wine to be the Body and Blood of the Lord. We offer the Sacrifice which Jesus offered once for all upon the Cross, the part for the whole, until he come and gather all things to himself.

Before, therefore, the Priest breaks the Bread and the Holy Presence is with us in the Offering, he kneels and says—

The Prayer of Humble Access.

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

"In the same night in which he was betrayed."

We are now come to the great act of Thanksgiving of the Christian Church, the Offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the crucified Saviour of the world. To this we bind ourselves, our souls and bodies.

Pray, therefore, from your heart, as the Priest repeats the words of Jesus when he himself gave thanks in the same night in which he was betrayed.

Pray that the Holy Spirit may come down and sanctify the gifts of Bread and Wine upon the altar, that they be the Body and Blood of the Lord, God with us—an acceptable offering to the Father and Creator of all things visible and invisible, and salvation and strength to those who do this in remembrance of his Son.

While the Priest is preparing for the Continual Remembrance of the sacrifice of the death of Christ, say to yourself the following hymn:—

Look down upon us, God of grace,
And send from thy most holy place
The quickening Spirit all Divine
On us and on this bread and wine.

O may his overshadowing
Make now for us this bread we bring
The Body of thy Son our Lord,
This Cup his Blood for sinners poured.

The Prayer of Consecration.

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again;

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood:

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Take, eat, this is my Body
which is given for you:
Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,

Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament,
Which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins:
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it,
In remembrance of me.
Amen.

The Holy Sacrifice

As you bow in worship at this Offering of the Holy Sacrifice, the Body and Blood of Christ under the outward visible sign of the bread and wine of your offertory, put your thoughts into words and say:

The Word is made Flesh;
And dwells among us.
O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us:
Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Jesus! Jesus!
I am not worthy that thou shouldest come unto me,
But speak the word only,
And thy servant shall be healed.

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to thy Name give the praise;
For thy loving mercy, and for thy truth's sake.
We are not worthy to come before thy presence;
We have no offering that thou didst not give;
Yet of thy mercy thou dost bid us come.
All that we have or are we lay before thee,
Take what thou wilt, O God, and make us wholly thine.

Thou, Lord, in the beginning, hast laid the foundations of the earth;
And the heavens are the works of thy hand.
We have not chosen thee,
But thou hast chosen us;
Thou hast opened the eyes of our hearts that we may know thee;

Thou hast given us life and understanding in
Thy Son, Jesus Christ,
Thou hast called us by thy Name,
We are thine.

Where two or three are gathered together, O Jesus, Master and Redeemer, there art thou with them in the midst:
From the four winds of heaven thou dost gather thine elect;
Gather our prayers that they may be an acceptable offering in our Father's sight.
As the grains of corn, scattered on the ploughland, were brought together into a single whole in the bread broken to be thy Body,
So from the ends of the earth may thy Church be gathered together in thy eternal Kingdom.

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
Clothe us with power from on high, that we may walk as children of the Light;
Bind us in one in the love and peace that are through Jesus Christ;
Give us life that we may live and walk in thee.
Let grace come and this world pass away;
Hosanna to the Son of David!
The Lord is at hand.
Even so, come quickly, O Lord Jesus.

The grass withereth: the flower fadeth;
But the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Pray also for others, mentioning by name any for whom you make special intercession:—

We beseech thee, O Master, be our help and succour;
Be the salvation of those in trouble;
Take pity on the lowly;
Raise up them that fall;
Reveal thyself to those who are in need;
Heal the ungodly, and restore those who have gone out of the way.
Satisfy the hunger of the needy;
Deliver those who suffer in prison;
Heal the sick;
Comfort the faint-hearted;
That all people may know that thou art the only God;
That Jesus Christ is thy Son and our Redeemer,
And that we are thy people and the sheep of thy pasture,
The Holy Church of thy Service and thy Love.

If time allows, add also the following Acts of Faith, Hope, Love, Contrition and Devotion.

Act of Faith.

O MY God, I believe in thee, three Persons in one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and I believe that Jesus Christ came down from heaven and died for me; and I believe all the truths he has taught us by his Word and by his Church. Lord, I believe—help thou my unbelief.

Act of Hope.

O MY God, I hope in thee to help me in all my troubles, to forgive me all my sins, and to bring me to thee in heaven at last. Lord, in thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded.

Act of Love.

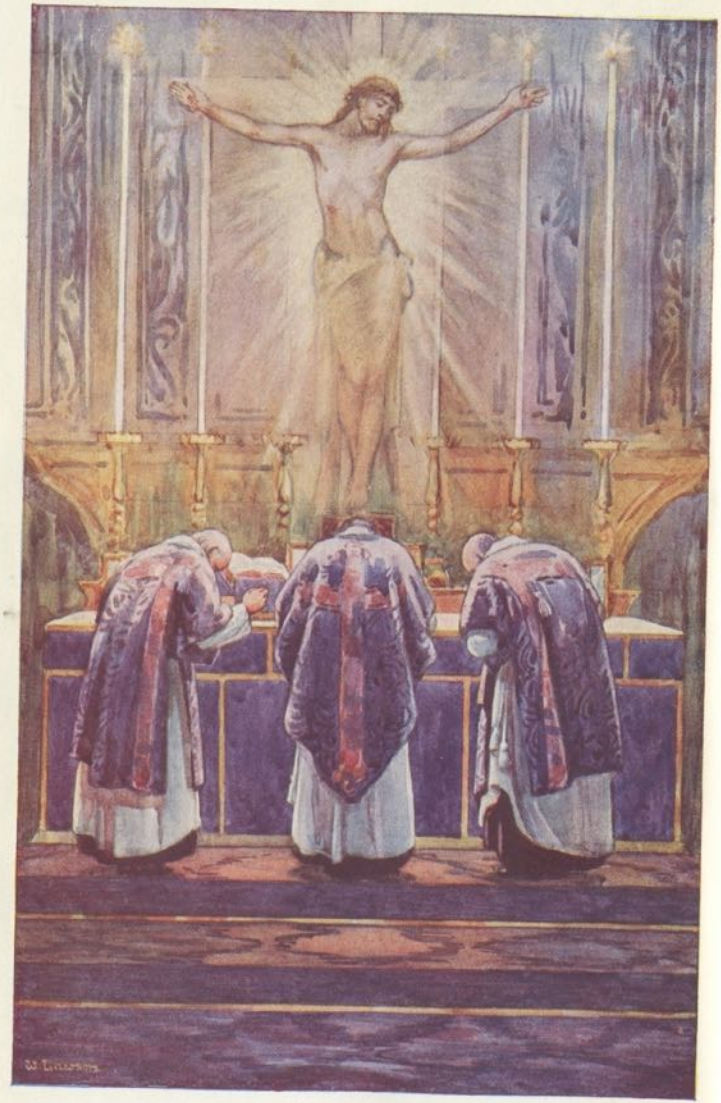
O MY God, I desire to love thee, with all my heart, with all my soul and with all my strength, because thou alone art perfectly good and worthy of love, and because Jesus Christ hath died for me. Help me, Lord, so to love my neighbour as thou hast loved me.

Act of Contrition.

O MY God, I desire to hate and forsake, out of love for thee, all sins by which I have ever displeased thee; and I resolve, by thy grace, to do the same no more; and to avoid all occasion of sin. Help me to do this; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Act of Devotion.

O LORD Jesus Christ, I am not mine own, but thine; take me to be thine own, and make me in all things to do thy holy will. O my God, I give myself to thee, for joy or for sorrow, for sickness and for health, for life or for death, for time and for eternity. Make me and keep me thine own, through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Agnus Dei

What I ask for myself, O Lord Jesus, I ask for all those for whom thou hast died, that they who sin against thee may be turned to love thee, and they who love thee may be drawn nearer to thee, to the glory of God the Father.

Anima Christi.

SOUL of Christ, sanctify me:
Body of Christ, save me:
Blood of Christ, fill me:
Water from the side of Christ, wash me:
Passion of Christ, strengthen me:
O Good Jesu, hear me:
In thy wounds, hide me:
Suffer me not to be separated from thee:
From the malicious enemy, defend me:
In the hour of death, call me:
And bid me come to thee:
That with thy Saints I may praise thee:
For ever and ever. Amen.

Continue reading these devotions quietly and without looking about until the time comes to sing

The Agnus Dei.

O LAMB of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy Peace.

While the Agnus Dei *is being sung the Priest and any others who are receiving the Holy Sacrament partake of the Body and Blood of Christ—God's Gift for the strengthening and refreshing of our souls. Pray that all who are thus one with Christ and Christ with them may be worthy partakers of this Holy Mystery. Pray that thereby the Holy Spirit may dwell in them and God's Holy Church. Pray that the whole world may be filled with the knowledge and the Presence of God, as the waters cover the sea. Pray that we may come altogether to the Perfect Man and daily increase in the Holy Spirit more and more until we come to the everlasting Kingdom prepared for the children of God.*

When the Communion is finished, we all join in saying or singing the prayer which Christ himself hath taught us,

The Lord's Prayer.

OUR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayer of Oblation.

O LORD and heavenly Father, we thy humble servants entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls

and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that all we, who are partakers of this holy Communion, may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

STAND

for the singing of the Hymn of the Christian Faith.

Gloria in Excelsis.

GLORY be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

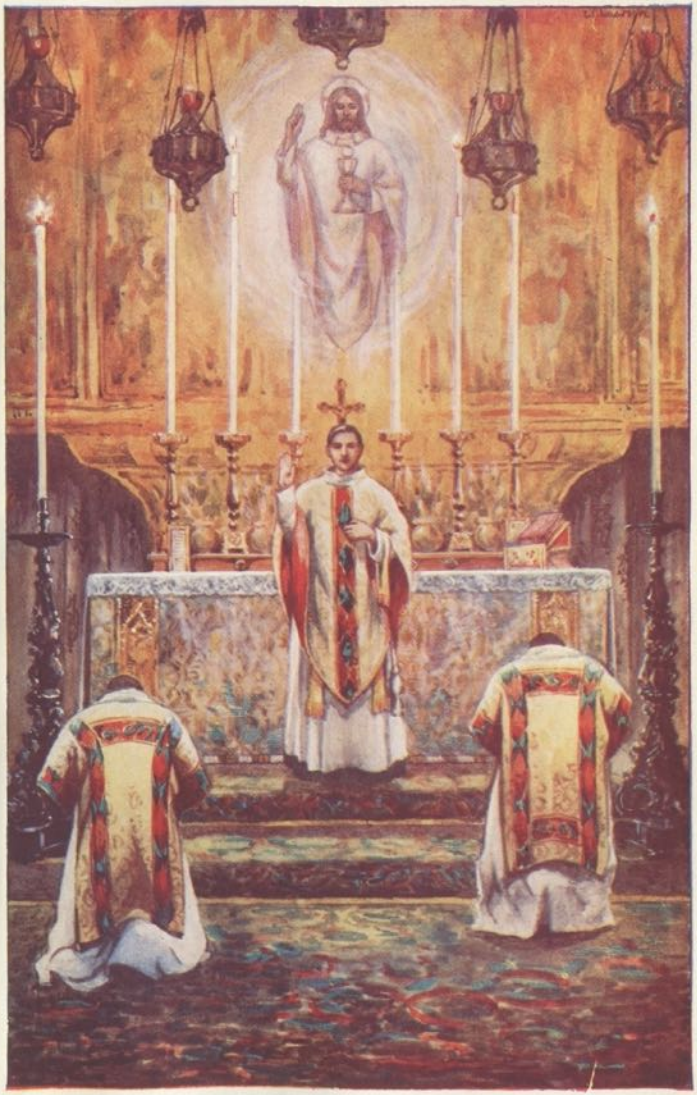
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Then KNEEL *while the Priest pronounces*

The Blessing.

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.



The Blessing

THE LAST GOSPEL.

St. John i. 1—14.

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

Before leaving the Church you may say the following prayers as thanksgiving:—

V. Let us bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

R. Let us praise and exalt him above all for ever.

V. Blessed be thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven.

R. And above all to be praised and exalted for ever.

V. May the Almighty and Holy Trinity bless and keep us.

R. Amen.

V. Enter not into judgment with thy servant, O Lord.

R. For in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

V. O Lord, hear our prayer,

R. And let our cry come unto thee.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

O GOD, who in this wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a perpetual memorial of thy Passion, grant us grace so to venerate the Sacred Mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may perceive within ourselves the fruits of thy redemption; who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth One God, world without end. Amen.

MAY the souls of all faithful ✠ through the mercy of God have rest in peace. Amen.

Printed in Great Britain by the Faith Press, Ltd., Leighton Buzzard.